

Mountaineering Equipment



Mission

Enable Soldier mobility in ascending or descending mountainous terrain.

Description and Specifications

The **Snow Wire Anchor** provides security in steep ascents. The **Ice Axe** is used to dig through snow or ice. **Cam Action Ascenders** are rope-gripping devices that climbers use to pull themselves up along a rope. The **Figure-8 Descender** allows steep incline rappelling.

The **Piton Hammer** is used to drive all types of rock and ice pitons. The **Rock and Ice Hammer** is used to hammer pitons into cracks in rock and has an ice climbing pick. **Ice Pitons** provide security by screwing into ice formations. **Angle Pitons** are driven into rock cracks in steep ascents. The **Cliffhanger Piton** hooks onto rock edges and flakes. The **Flat General Pitons**, **Offset Knifeblade Pitons**, and **Mountain Pitons** are driven into rock. **Wired and Hexagon Stoppers** provide security during steep ascents by placing the stoppers into cracks in the rocks.

The **Full-Body Climbing Harness** gives the climber freedom of movement by attaching the rope harness. The **Kernmantle Rope** secures climbers and equipment in steep ascents, descents, and bridging and can be used to haul equipment. **Crampon Protectors** are intended to cover the points of the crampons to protect climbers from injury and equipment from damage. **Crampon Straps** keep the crampon firmly affixed to the climber's footwear.

The **Mountain Rescue Pulley** is used for hauling equipment and for emergency rescue. The **Nonlocking Mountain Piton Snap Link** is D-shaped and used to clip running rope to various anchors or to fasten pieces of rope sling or hardware together quickly and securely. The **Locking Mountain Piton Snap Link** is used in rappelling and erecting fixed rope installations.

The **Special Operational Forces (SOF) Mountaineering Equipment Set (SOFME)** provides

Special Operations Soldiers with equipment to maintain mobility in mountainous, glacial, and snow-packed terrain. SOFME consists of 39 items provided for 12-man SOF teams. The set contains general purpose rock hammers, ice axes, ascenders, three types of snap links, descenders, five types of pitons, eight sizes of stoppers, two sizes of irregular hexagon stoppers, cliff hangers, two sizes of piton ice screws, full body climbing harnesses, mountain rescue pulleys, crampons, two sizes of snow anchors, two sizes of tubular webbing, and five sizes of rope/accessory cord.